

**New Shoreham Town Council Meeting
Town Hall, Old Town Road
Friday, June 18, 2010
12:00 noon**

Present: First Warden Kimberley H. Gaffett, Second Warden Raymond J. Torrey, and Council member Peter B. Baute. Also present: Jeff Broadhead and Maura Sayre of the Washington County Regional Planning Council; Town Manager Nancy Dodge; Finance Director Amy Land; and members of the Electric Utility Task Force Barbara MacMullan, Bill Penn and Everett Shorey. Deputy Town Clerk Millicent McGinnes was present for the recording of minutes. Council members Richard P. Martin and Kenneth C. Lacoste were absent.

First Warden Gaffett called the meeting to order at 12:02 p.m.

The agenda was amended to address the second item on the agenda at the beginning of the meeting.

Receive and Act on update from the Washington County Regional Planning Council re: Washington County Energy Program

Jeff Broadhead and Maura Sayre of the Washington County Regional Planning Council (WCRPC) presented an overview of the status of the grant applications the WCRPC has applied for, which include funding for Block Island.

- Federal Stimulus Grants, funded by the federal government and administered by the state:
 - 1st round of funding (\$750,000) was not funded.
 - 2nd round of funding (\$750,000) is pending. The grant includes funding for a Block Island wind feasibility study.
- RI Economic Development Corporation, Renewable Energy Fund Grants. This grant application is pending. If granted it will fund the following Block Island projects:
 - general efficiencies for public buildings
 - solar hot water arrays for Town buildings
 - loans for energy efficiencies for small businesses and residencies
- Federal Broadband Grant:
 - \$6.5 million grant to link all of Washington County schools and municipal buildings with broadband communication, to be microwaved to Block Island
 - The grant is in the “due diligence” phase and the WCRPC believes it will be funded.

Discussion ensued regarding the Block Grant funding and reporting process.

Mr. Broadhead and Ms. Sayre distributed a draft document regarding the ESCO / Performance RFQ. The document included the RFQ and assorted draft contracts between the WCRPC, the Town and the potential ESCO. Mr. Broadhead asked that the draft be reviewed and comments be made by July 1st. The ESCO process was discussed. It was noted that the ESCO will do an energy audit and come up with energy saving projects which, if the Town chooses, will be completed by the ESCO. The ESCO will provide financing over time for the payment of the work. Town Manager Dodge questioned the liability of covering the costs of the audits if no further work is contracted. Mr. Broadhead stated that he expected negotiations with the ESCO's to take place regarding those fees and he was also hoping grant funds may help cover the fees.

Dr. Baute suggested including waste management based conservation and energy projects in future grant applications. He recommended that Mr. Broadhead and Ms. Sayre come to a future Island Energy Plan Committee meeting for brainstorming.

The Council thanked Mr. Broadhead and Ms. Sayre for coming.

Set Public Hearing Date for Changes to New Shoreham General Ordinances: Veteran's Exemptions (Chapter 17, Sections 56 – 58)

Ms. Gaffett made a motion to set a public hearing date of July 21, 2010 to address the changes to New Shoreham General Ordinance regarding Veteran's Exemption Chapter 17, Sections 56-58. Mr. Torrey seconded the motion and it carried.

3 Ayes (Gaffett, Torrey, Baute) 0 Nays 2 Absent (Martin, Lacoste)

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With no further business to discuss, Mr. Torrey made a motion to adjourn at 1:25 p.m.
Ms. Gaffett seconded with all in favor.

Millicent McGinnes
Deputy Town Clerk

Submitted: June 24, 2010
Approved: July 6, 2010